IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Application No.:

10/577,244

Examiner:

David BOLLINGER

Filing Date:

April 5, 2006

Art Unit:

3653

First Inventor:

Rudolf CHRISTL

Customer No.:

23364

Attorney No.:

CHRI3003/JJC

Confirm No:

2474

For:

APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING SHEET MATERIAL

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 9, 2008

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is responsive to the Office action dated December 9, 2008 in the pending application. A one-month extension of time is provided herewith.

ELECTION

The applicant hereby elects the claims of Group I for prosecution on the merits. The invention of Group I include claims 1-10, 13 and 14. It will be noted that the restriction requirement did not account for claims 13 and 14 which are dependent from claim 1 and were added in the preliminary amendment dated April 26, 2006.

The applicant hereby reserves all rights to the non-elected subject matter.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Date: January 13, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

JUSTIN J CASSELL Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 46,205